

# Technology in Rural Transportation

A recent study documented more than eighty proven, cost-effective, “low-tech” solutions to rural transportation needs, most developed or implemented by local transportation professionals. One of these solutions is outlined below:



Learn all about the simple solutions on the Internet at <http://inform.enterprise.prog.org>

The simple solutions report is available from Hau To at (503) 892-2533, or email: [to@crc-corp.com](mailto:to@crc-corp.com)

## Pothole Repair by Spray Injection

<b>Overall goal:</b>	To encourage quicker, more economical repair of potholes.
<b>Technical approach:</b>	<p>The spray-injection machine has two storage tanks, one for the asphalt binder and one for the aggregate. These materials are combined to form an asphalt mix as they travel through a high-pressure hose to the pothole being repaired. The device may be attached to the rear of a truck or trailer.</p> <p>The repair takes only minutes, and once the workers and the equipment are out of the way, the road is immediately ready to carry traffic.</p>
<b>Current status:</b>	After testing the system in 1997, South Carolina purchased 59 units for deployment throughout the state.
<b>Location / geographic scope:</b>	State of South Carolina.
<b>Agencies involved:</b>	Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT).
<b>Cost information:</b>	The devices are very cost effective, as it is estimated that they reduce the need for repeat maintenance by about 50-60%. They also save money in terms of personnel because less training is required to use this device versus traditional methods, and repairs take less time.
<b>Key contacts:</b>	Joe Huerta, FHWA, <a href="mailto:joseph.huerta@fhwa.dot.gov">joseph.huerta@fhwa.dot.gov</a> .
<b>Have goals been achieved?</b>	Yes. The device saves time and improves safety, since work crews spend less time in the roadway.



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## Solution timeline:

After testing the device for a year, SCDOT purchased enough devices for statewide implementation.

